

UNION OF CITIES WON'T RAISE TAXES

Chairman Pollard Explains Why Branch Theory Is Wrong.

CALLS HIGH-RATE FEAR ALL HUMBAG

Chairman of Finance Committee Declares New Assessment Will Increase Taxable Values, Giving City Greater Revenue—Consolidation Stock Takes Boost.

Chairman H. R. Pollard, Jr., of the Joint Committee on Consolidation, and chairman of the Council Committee on Finance, took issue yesterday with John P. Branch, who stated in an interview, published in "The Times-Dispatch," that annexation would probably increase the local tax rate from \$1.40 to \$1.50.

"With all due respect to Mr. Branch," said Chairman Pollard, "all this talk about an increase in taxation is humbug."

"I am satisfied that the new assessment which goes into effect in 1911 will increase the taxable value of real estate from \$200,000,000 to \$250,000,000, which means an additional revenue to the city of \$300,000 per annum, and an additional amount against which the city could issue bonds to the extent of from \$3,500,000 to \$4,000,000."

Halfly Agreement To-Night.

Every assurance was given yesterday that the ordinance providing for the consolidation of Richmond and Manchester would be ratified to-night at a special meeting of the joint committee, composed of members from the two cities.

City Attorney Pollard, of Richmond, and City Attorney Goodwyn, of Manchester, have finally cast the measure into proper legal form, as directed by the committee, after all the points of difference were adjusted. The committee itself is ready and anxious to act, so that the two Councils may adopt the measure for approval by the Mayors.

With the introduction in the House of Delegates of a bill to amend the old law relating to the consolidation of cities, and the promise that it will be speedily enacted, there does not seem to be anything in the way of consolidation in time for the combined figures to be counted as the population of Richmond for the census of 1910.

Stock at Highest Point Now.

At no time, in fact, has consolidation been higher than it is now. Of course, that there is more or less opposition to the measure, though this is regarded as nominal, in view of the tremendous and decided sentiment expressed by business organizations, business people and citizens generally.

"You must remember there is opposition from some quarters to everything," said a member of the Board of Aldermen yesterday, "and some people would object if King Edward would agree to build a bridge over the James River. They would declare that the British government was trying to annex Richmond, in order to give London a greater population; so objection to our consolidation plan is to be expected. But it will hardly defeat the cherished hope of our people, who realize the advantages and benefits and who are not afraid that Manchester will get better streets than Manchester might have under its present system of government."

Certain to Pass Council.

Enough heads have been counted to justify the assertion that the ordinance, to be adopted by the joint committee to-night, will be passed by the Council of each city without serious opposition. It is admitted, however, that there will come the special election in the smaller city, under a new State law, which will make the union effective prior to April 1, after which date the city would be deprived of the combined census.

Members of the Legislature, approached at random, declared unanimously for the amended law on consolidation. "As we understand it," said a leader in the House of Delegates last night, "this measure comes as the joint request of the Richmond and Manchester delegations, which alone demands favorable consideration on our part. But behind it all is the proposition to make a Greater Richmond, and that is the real reason why the General Assembly could do at one session."

SYSTEMATIC FRAUDS

American Immigration Laws Are Being Flagrantly Violated.

Antwerp, January 16.—The Belgian authorities have been advised of systematic frauds which are being practiced against the American immigration laws at Antwerp, Rotterdam, Marseilles and other ports.

It is alleged that certain Armenians and other undesirable, who have been imported from Ellis Island, have been reshipped as sailors and from there to the emigration authorities. These frauds, it is stated, are being conducted by a gang, whose headquarters are at Constantinople, who employ agents to all of the great European ports. They speculate in labor, paying high prices to secure the entrance into the United States of aliens, whose wages they collect, pocketing the difference between the actual wages paid and their contract price.

BRIDE'S HARD LUCK

She Is Knocked on Head and Thrown in Well by Husband.

Fairfax, Conn., January 16.—A bride on the head thrown into a well by her husband and a male companion and left for dead, was the fate that befell Annie Moskowitz, a bride of three days who was married in Chicago, Mass., on Friday.

On striking the water the woman regained consciousness and drew her head out of the water by means of a rope. This she clung to until this morning, when she was found. Her feet are frozen and will have to be amputated.

The men checked a trunk belonging to the woman, which she said contained \$700, to Springfield.

LAUNDRY WRECKED

Gasoline Tank Explodes and Fatally Injures Manager.

Lake City, Fla., January 16.—An explosion of a gasoline tank in the Columbia Steam Laundry at 10 o'clock today completely wrecked the building, which was practically new, and perhaps fatally injured Claude Sheldon, manager of the laundry. After the explosion the building was a complete wreck, and it was with difficulty that the firemen extracted Sheldon from the mass of timber.

The victim of the explosion was passing along the street near the laundry on his way to get supper at the hotel restaurant, and when about the corner of the building noticed a light in the rear. Opening the door to investigate, he saw that a small fire was burning in the rear of the building. At the next moment the explosion occurred, which was probably hastened by the sudden rush of air into the room.

The walls fell in, pinning Sheldon underneath, in which condition he remained until the firemen arrived. By the time the flames were burning in the very spot where the unconscious victim lay, and quickly the firemen threw the water on the man. The physicians state that there is small chance of his recovery.

The damage will amount to several thousand dollars.

TO TEST CORPORATION TAX

Suit Filed in Chicago on Ground That Law Is Unconstitutional.

Chicago, Ill., January 16.—Suit was filed in the United States Circuit Court here, charging that the Federal corporation tax law recently passed by Congress is unconstitutional, and asking an injunction to restrain the directors of the Northern Trust Company from paying the tax.

The plaintiff is Fred W. Smith, a stockholder in the Northern Trust Company, of Chicago, and is in the nature of a test case. The action is against the Federal corporation tax law, which is being tested by the directors of the bank. Among other things the bill asks that the new law be declared unconstitutional, and that an injunction be issued to restrain the directors from voluntarily complying with the law, and paying the tax for either the year 1909 or the subsequent year. The bill alleges that the corporation tax is a direct tax, and that it is unconstitutional, and that the several States, as required by the Constitution of the United States.

CHICAGO GETS SOME MILK

But Hoarding and Hoaxes With Inhabitants Get the Best of the Situation.

Chicago, January 16.—While the milk famine in Chicago was relieved in part by the arrival of several trains of milk, the problem became worse. Chicago must fight against the West for coal to keep its supply, according to one large milk producer, and three other persons declared: "Name your own price; we will gladly pay it."

With the breaking of the milk famine did not cease with the cutting through of the snow blockade at Harvard, Ill., sixty-two miles from Chicago, the milk train, which was through ran to Woodstock, eleven miles this side, and then was laid out by a broken axle. This held up the milk trains behind.

The large milk concerns were ready to make deliveries as soon as the milk was available, and a wagon having been backed up at the station for hours. Practically all the milk that came in was delivered to hospitals and homes where there were infants and sick persons. Several dairy companies which depended on an interurban electric road for their milk supply were at a loss, as that line had not been opened.

LEAPS OVER PRECIPICE

Freight Train Is Wrecked and Three Men Meet Death.

Leadville, Colo., January 16.—A freight train jumped over a precipice near Leadville to-day on the Colorado Midland Railway and two trainmen and Edward Davenport, of Van, Mich., were killed, and three other persons were injured. Albert Harter, of Grand Rapids, Mich., was slightly hurt.

An extra freight, eastbound, started down the steep grade from the east portal to the Busk-Vanhook Tunnel, near Leadville, at 10 o'clock. At Windy Point, on a sharp curve, the locomotive and the eleven cars left the track and plunged down a precipice. The train was caused by a broken rail.

Harter and Davenport were riding a box car. Harter was thrown more than 200 feet into the air. He made his way toward the wreck and found Engineer Forest fifty feet from his engine, buried under the ruins of an axle box. The body of Forest was found under the engine. Davenport was found under a box car.

STRIKE IMMINENT

Railway Men Will Quit Unless Their Demands Are Granted.

Mexico City, January 16.—According to the report from reliable sources to-night, members of the Mexican branches of the Order of Railway Conductors and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers now employed on the National Railways of Mexico will resign in a body next Friday unless their demands are granted.

The result of the conferences with the railway management before that time, it is said, will be the end of the strike. The union men there will refuse to handle freight to and from Mexico in the event terms are not agreed on.

Reports tonight are to the effect that the engineers and conductors will demand recognition of their unions and a plain statement of the attitude of the railroads towards foreign employees.

Warmer Weather En Route.

Washington, D. C., January 16.—Moderate weather, with a strong wind, will prevail throughout the United States during the next few days and probably during the entire week. This is the prediction made by the Weather Bureau. Fair weather, with temperature above the season's average is promised for the Southeastern States.

Bank Closes Its Doors.

Evansville, Ind., January 16.—The Citizens' National Bank will not open for business to-morrow. After a meeting of the directors to-night a notice was posted that the bank was closed, but that the depositors would be paid in full.

After Abductions Millions.

Berlin, January 16.—It is stated on good authority that the Prussian Government has commenced proceedings to recover from the Deutsche Bank the millions derelictured there by Abdul Hamid, the former Sultan of Turkey.

Three Men Suffocated.

Montrose, Colo., January 16.—Three men were suffocated by powder in a tunnel to-day. Thirty others narrowly escaped death.

PUBLIC BUSINESS CONSIDERED EARLY

Legislature Starts Work on Bills To-Day in Committee.

SENTIMENT BEGINS TO CRYSTALLIZE

Action on Proposed Legislation Indicated by Members—Tax Bills Likely to Be Enacted, While Appropriations Will Not Be So Liberal.

Only five of the sixty days in the life of the General Assembly of Virginia have elapsed, yet the work of the session is already well under way. Most of the important bills which will be in the public eye and for which there is general demand have been introduced. The Finance Committee and other subdivisions of the House will meet this morning, while in a day or two the sessions of the Senate committee will begin.

This early application to business is due in part to the prior meetings of the Senate Finance Committee and in part to the prompt appointment of House standing committees by Speaker Byrd.

Upon the return of Chairman Keelz, who spent the week-end at his home in Rockingham county, the Senate financiers will take up the work of considering the various bills looking to increased revenue. It is anticipated that not a great deal of consideration of these bills in committee will be necessary, since the Senators on that committee have already given their earnest consideration. In fact, the provisions of these bills were practically written in committee meeting.

Early Report Expected.

Of course there will be opposition to the increase in taxes. There is always opposition to increase in taxes, upon any subject or under any circumstances. But in this case, the opposition is expected to be small. The Finance Committee hearings, and in further view of the needs of the State, it may be predicted that the bills looking to increased revenue will be promptly and favorably reported.

The proposed bill will probably wait on the disposition of the tax bills. The purpose is evident on the part of the members of both bodies to continue the appropriations for new department and institutions which the State has fathered. But they feel that they cannot spend money which is not in the treasury.

When the revenue bills have been passed the Legislature will turn its attention to spending the money which has been increased. In determining the provisions of the general appropriation bill there must of necessity be a spirit of concession. Hardly anybody will get just what he wants, and while some of the advocates of increased expenditures along some lines will maintain a stiff front, they must eventually take what they can get. There are certain expenditures which are necessary and which cannot be curtailed, and the latter will necessarily spend more money for the maintenance of the increasing number of insane in the hospitals of the Commonwealth. In consequence of some of these institutions which were established by the Legislature and which will have to be built up again during the next two years.

A Prophecy.

In company with a mule and a gasoline engine, a Legislature completes the picture. The Legislature will disturb the apparent peace and harmony, and the Executive will not be far behind. The Legislature will not be far behind. The Legislature will not be far behind.

First comes the all-important and overshadowing problem of the collection, magnitude and expenditure of the public funds. Bills will pass increasing the license of dealers and certain other lines of trade which would perhaps be as well not to mention here, since that would merely precipitate the inevitable battle which will be waged about the heads of the members.

Then, secondly, will be gotten from real estate. A tax commission is possible, but sentiment has hardly crystallized upon that point as yet. Certain it is that some plan will be adopted giving immediate relief from the gross inequalities in assessment—something which can be made effective in the regular real estate valuation which will be made this year. The Swanson-Fletcher plan for temporary relief is a probable winner.

The appropriations for the primary and grammar grade free schools will not be reduced, unless a general cut along all lines is made. Nothing but an absolute policy of retrenchment, applied to everything, could carry with it a lessening of the value of the public free schools to the children of the State. The new higher institutions of learning for women will have to get on for 1910 at least with less than they have asked for. How much less will be a matter for determination when the revenue bills have been acted upon.

Future of Roads.

Roads will probably not get any cash aid for this year, while the convict work lines is near. Probably the program of the Virginia Good Roads Association asking for one-half of the revenues from the franchise taxes on railroads will be adopted, but it will not be effective until 1911.

The Enticement Colony Will Get Little, if Anything, This Year.

The State Board of Health will receive a large part of the money it asks. Talk among the members is that money spent in promoting the public health yields a direct and immediate revenue to the State in increased taxes.

(Continued on Page Three-Column 6.)

LEAN, HARD WINTER ON TAMMANY TIGER

Has Had No Nourishment But Kind Words From Gaynor.

OFFICES GOING TO OUTSIDERS

With Clock-like Precision Murphy Submits His Candidates and Mayor Turns Them Down—Few Plums Are Still to Be Handed Out.

New York, January 16.—Like other domestic animals, the Tammany Tiger must be fed, but since William J. Gaynor was elected Mayor of Greater New York, the tiger's diet has been almost exclusively kind words. Charles F. Murphy, the leader of Tammany, has paid three visits to the Gaynor house in Brooklyn and three to City Hall, but he has brought away hardly more than a cheerful smile. Nevertheless, every Tammany office-seeker continues to be told "You must see Murphy first."

The sages of the organization have worked out an explanation for this anomaly which is both ingenious and instructive. The Mayor is reported to have said to Murphy:

"I am grateful to you for your support in the campaign. Any names you submit shall have preference. But they must be good names."

Works Perfectly.

Under this agreement, which thus far has worked with automatic precision, Murphy submits the names and the Mayor rejects them. In the first two weeks of his administration, the Mayor has distributed nearly \$200,000 worth of patronage and issued orders that will affect the distribution of hundreds of thousands more without giving Tammany so much as "a look-in."

Out of thirty-five Tammany district leaders, just one has got a job. Out of a long list of new commissioners appointed, at salaries ranging from \$5,000 to \$15,000, just one is a Tammany man—Rhineclauder Waldo, the new Fire Commissioner. And the first thing Waldo did was to abolish the private stable the city has been maintaining for the Commissioner.

So elsewhere, Tammany's Premier, just announced in his first day of office, has not been able to get enough for him. The Mayor walks with the city automobiles do not demonstrate their usefulness and they and their chauffeurs and the chauffeurs "joy rides" are all to go. Park Commissioner Higgins, of the Bronx, laid off 150 men in the first week. Water Commissioner Thompson has done away with overtime and Sunday pay. It looks very lean for the small fry.

One bright spot, however, the Tammany men still see. There is no sign that the Mayor will attempt to build up a rival political machine. Thus far he has not tried to do so.

There remain two positions to fill, which in the public eye bulk larger than any of the others—the Commissioner of Police and the Commissioner of Street Cleaning. Both are now held by McClellan appointees. William F. Barker has been named for the Police Department, and "Big Bill" Edwards the Street Cleaning Department.

Indications are that Barker will go. On the choice of his successor must rest a large share of the success or failure of the administration. No administration is without enemies, and these will endeavor to criticize the enforcement of the excise laws and the morals of the streets and tenements.

Open or Closed?

Thus far the question of whether this is to be a wide-open or a closed town for four more years has not been indicated. The Mayor said in his inaugural speech that he favored the free interpretation of existing laws. The side doors were open on Sunday in the closing days of the McClellan administration, and they are open now. Will they stay open?

Commissioner Edwards has been given two heavy tasks by two of the new commissioners. New York has known in years. The Mayor has approved of his work in handling them and may reconsider his early decision to name his own commissioner. Undoubtedly he has been hampered by difficulty in getting the men he wants. "When men of high standards are asked to accept the leadership of departments," he says, "they give their own private business as an excuse. There is a lack of civic obligation."

LIGHTSHIP CAST ADRIFT

Captain Declares It Worst Storm in His Experience.

New Bedford, Mass., January 16.—"In all my twelve years' experience at the Nantucket Shoals Lightship Station, I never weathered a storm so severe as that of Friday and Saturday," declared Captain F. S. Deane, when he had docked the lightship at this port to-day. The vessel was cast adrift from her station on Friday afternoon.

In relating his experiences, Captain Deane said that the seas ran so high on Friday afternoon that the spray landed in the smokestack, and more than twenty tons of water struck her deck. Her great cables could no longer stand the strain and they parted, her riding buoy, which held the light of her mooring chain, and a 7,000-pound mushroom anchor. This left her with only one anchor, which was of no value in such a gale.

The lightship will coal to-morrow and return to her station.

CELEBRITIES ACCEPT

Taft, Cannon and Gaynor Will Attend Lincoln Dinner.

New York, January 16.—It was announced in New York to-day that President Taft, Speaker Cannon and Mayor Gaynor have accepted invitations to the Republican Club's dinner on Lincoln's birthday, February 12, at the Waldorf-Astoria. Governor Hughes's secretary has written that the Governor may accept the invitation.

HOPE IS ABANDONED BY CONSERVATIVES

Realize That They Cannot Win Control of Government.

LIBERALS HAVE GOOD MAJORITY

This Election Will Not End Struggle—Tariff Reformers Are Already Looking Forward to Future Battles.

Lloyd-George Expresses Satisfaction.

London, January 16.—Sunday has given a welcome respite from the strenuous work at the election stations, and an opportunity for calm reflection over the prospects of both parties surviving to gain control of the government. The greatest animation prevailed. The greatest animation prevailed.

Although both sides preserve a sanguine air of confidence, it was evident to-day that the Conservatives have abandoned hope that their party will form the next government. The utmost they dare to expect is that the Liberal majority will be so reduced in the next Parliament as to place the Liberals at the mercy of the Nationalists.

It must be remembered that Mr. Balfour, leader of the opposition in the House of Commons, in a speech some days ago, said that the great political issues now in question would not be settled by one general election, and perhaps not by two. Clearly the premier accurately measured the situation, and the hopes of the tariff reformers must be centered upon some future general election.

Good Working Majority.

An estimate made to-day after careful calculation by a well-informed Unionist, based on Saturday's pollings, gives the Liberals and Laborites a clear majority of ninety or 100 over all parties, which would provide the Liberal government with a good working majority.

Many of the Unionists, however, are less despondent. They do not believe that the Laborites will finish the election with a good working majority. At the National Liberal Club great satisfaction is expressed over the results so far. Some further losses are expected at Glasgow and a reduced vote in the English counties, where the agricultural interests would be likely to benefit from tariff reform and where the landed interests have great influence.

The pollings to-morrow, which include thirty-one London constituencies and fifty-seven provincial boroughs, will provide a better index as to how the country is going. Should the Liberals retain the hold on the metropolis, which they gained in 1906, their prospects will be regarded as much rosier than they appear now.

At present, to sum up, nothing can be predicted with absolute certainty, but only a very great increase in the Unionist gains over Saturday's results, when they gained only the narrow margin of a few seats, would give them victory. If the Unionists continue to gain in the same ratio, the Liberals will still retain a majority somewhere in the neighborhood of thirty.

"We are winning, England is declaring emphatically against government by the peers and peers. The North is overwhelmingly with us."

John Burns, President of the Local Government Board, Said:

"All things considered, in the fight between those who have too much and those who have too little, yesterday's results are exceedingly good. The North has done much better than I expected. In my judgment it has done supremely well. To win the seats that have been lost would have required almost superhuman efforts."

Crooks, the well-known labor leader, who was in Australia when the budget crisis began, and has been racing against time to reach London so that he might take part in the elections, arrived to-night.

Woolwich, in the House of Commons, was received by his constituency with remarkable demonstrations.

Among the interesting members elected yesterday were Rev. C. Silverthorne, Congregational minister at Ipswich, and Almeric Hugh Paget, a Unionist candidate for Cambridge, whose wife is a daughter of the late William C. Whitney.

FAIL TO WAKE HIM

Thirty Clocks Ring Alarm, But Their Victim Remains Dead.

New York, January 16.—For the first time in thirty years, Robert Willoughby failed to wake up this morning when his thirty clocks, simultaneously setting off a series of gongs, gave their customary alarms at 6 o'clock. He had died some time during the night of a heart disease.

Willoughby was fifty-seven years old, and had been employed as a motorman by the Third Avenue Elevated Railway for the past twenty years. He was a punctual employee in the service. No matter what the weather was, Willoughby was never late.

The secret of his punctuality came to light when his room was inspected to-day. Lined round his bed were thirty clocks of different sizes and makes. All struck the same hour at the same time.

Willoughby came from an old Maryland family.

Universal Suffrage Demanded.

Berlin, January 16.—Social Democratic demonstrations were held to-day in favor of the reform of the Prussian franchise. A heavy rain fell all through the day, and there was little disorder. Resolutions were adopted demanding universal, direct and equal suffrage. Similar demonstrations were held throughout Prussia.

Fatal Headon Collision.

Cedar Rapids, Ia., January 16.—Mrs. Louis Lee, of Cleveland, was killed and ten other persons were injured, when a passenger train collided with a freight train on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad at Keosauqua, Ia.

FOR PUBLIC WELFARE

Prominent Men Will Consider Remedies for Numerous Evils.

Washington, D. C., January 16.—Representatives of every phase of the complex citizenship of the United States will assemble in conference to-morrow, Tuesday and Wednesday, under the auspices of the National Civic Federation, at Belasco Theatre, for the purpose of devising ways and means to bring about uniform laws relating to marriage and divorce, child labor and pure food and drugs.

Labor and capital will join with lawyers, business men, educators and politicians, clergymen and soldiers, scientists and artists, in discussing problems vital to the home and society which have become so intimately related to the general welfare of the nation.

Coincident with the conference of the National Civic Federation will be the meeting of Governors, called by President Taft for the purpose of considering uniform laws, looking to conservation of natural resources, to conservation, whether of the forests or of the waters of the country.

President Sixth Low, of the Civic Federation, will call the conference to order at 10 o'clock to-morrow, the opening address to be delivered by President Taft, who, in turn will be followed by Judge J. H. Parker, former president of the American Bar Association, and chairman of the committee on program for the conference, and Governor Arthur E. Morgan, of Kentucky, chairman of the committee on arrangements for the conference of Governors.

The delegates have already arrived for the convention, and as they are the picked men and women of the country, prominent in every section of the nation, it is to be the most notable in the history of the Civic Federation.

OFFERINGS INCREASED

New York Pledges Great Sum for Foreign Mission Work.

New York, January 16.—Fifty thousand dollars, representing practically all the Protestant churches in the city, voted unanimously at a mass-meeting in the Hippodrome this afternoon to increase their offerings for the offerings of the Protestant churches of Greater New York by \$250,000 during the coming year.

This is slightly more than 30 per cent increase over the sum given last year, which was \$100,115. The amount to be donated this year is \$250,000, of which Brooklyn churches have assumed responsibility for \$225,000.

The meeting was held under the auspices of the Laymen's Missionary Movement, and marked the close of the Greater New York Convention. Twelve cities, including New York, in which conventions have already been held, have pledged an increase of \$1,750,000 for foreign missions during the coming year.

Conventions of this kind are held in the city of New York, and the other large cities of the North, and are held in close connection with a national missionary congress at Chicago on May 3 to 6.

DYNAMITE IN HIS SHIRT

Match Does the Work, and Wife Has to Run for Her Life.

New London, Conn., January 16.—Placing three sticks of dynamite in front of his shirt, William A. Bennett, of New London, was blown to death at his home here to-day. The windows in the room were blown in, and otherwise the house was not damaged.

Bennett, on returning from work Friday, handed his wife a bouquet of flowers. With the bouquet he told her what to do with them between now and Monday.

To-day he kissed his father and mother, and entering his wife's room, said: "That you love me, don't you?" He then crossed to another room and set off the dynamite.

HOOKWORM CONFERENCE

More Than Two Hundred Physicians Will Be In Attendance.

Atlanta, Ga., January 16.—With three members of the Rockefeller commission for the study of the hookworm disease, and a number of other prominent physicians, life insurance officials and representatives of civic and commercial organizations will gather in Atlanta to-morrow for the first national conference called for the study of the hookworm disease. The conference will be in session two days, and a permanent organization, to be known as "The Southern Health Conference," will be organized.

The principal speaker will be Dr. Charles W. Siles, of the Department of Public Health, Washington, and a member of the Rockefeller commission. The disposition of the \$100,000 gift of John D. Rockefeller, other speakers will include Dr. J. H. Henshaw, of Nashville, Tenn., and E. E. Rittenhouse, president of the Provident Savings Life Assurance Society, New York.

PASSES ON TO DEATH

Woman Dies After Lying in Speechless Trance for Months.

Pittsburg, Pa., January 16.—From a speechless trance, in which she had lain for months, Kate Mendelsohn passed on to death at a hospital here to-day. The physicians are puzzled at the case.

Her husband, who died in September 30 awoke to find the woman in a comatose state. Her baby lay on the floor, unheeded, apparently having no knowledge of what had taken place before he awoke, but he thinks that his wife must have been conscious of her unconsciousness when the baby tumbled out of bed. She must, he believes, have presumed that the child was killed. She had been from his normal health. Since the baby's fall she had, however, never spoken a word. The surgeons expect to hold an autopsy.

KILLED BY AUTOMOBILE

Little William Farrer Dead and Brother Badly Injured.

Jacksonville, Fla., January 16.—Little William K. Farrer, six years of age, lies dead at the home of his mother, Mrs. Farrer, traveling, and his brother, James Farrer, eight years old, is dangerously injured, having been knocked down by a big sightseeing car on one of the principal boulevards this afternoon.

The little boys were riding their bicycle, William doing the peddling, and James being on the handlebars. Just as the big car was about to pass them, the wheel veered and struck the big automobile. William's skull was fractured and he was internally injured, dying before he could be taken home. Frank I. Purling, driver of the automobile, was arrested.

Will Not Accept Call.

Birmingham, England, January 16.—The Rev. John Henry Jewett, pastor of the Central Baptist Church, has announced that he will not accept the call to the pastorate of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York.

INSURGENT FIGHT CANNOT BE DOWNED

It Promises to Bob Up Throughout Entire Session.

LEGISLATION IS BADLY RETARDED

Bickerings Spread to Senate Wing and Work Is at Standstill—Fate of Taft's Cherished Bills in Doubt—No One Willing to Father Them.

Washington, D. C., January 16.—No matter how satisfactory an arrangement is made for the selection of a joint committee to investigate the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy, the insurgent fight promises to occupy a prominent place in the congressional situation during the coming session. Dissensions between the insurgents and regulars in the House have occupied the centre of the stage for a fortnight, although several important measures have been passed. The bickerings have even spread to the Senate wing of the Capitol, and legislation there has been at a standstill.

That there will be a full in hostilities in the House as soon as the Ballinger-Pinchot committee is appointed is conceded, but those who are anxious that legislation may proceed without delay are not over-optimistic of their efforts to keep the insurgent row in check. They look for renewed outbreaks whenever any question affecting the Cannon rules is introduced into the proceedings.

Fate in Balance.

Second in interest to the discussion of the battle between the Republican organization and the insurgents in the House is the gossip in both branches of Congress as to what will be the fate of the several administration bills to put into force what are now known as Taft policies, as differentiated from Roosevelt policies. These embrace the program for the amendment of the tariff, the repeal of the Sherman anti-trust law, and carrying over of measures for the conservation of natural resources.

Little opposition has been heard to the administration measure for the strengthening of the interstate commerce act. On all sides it seems to be conceded that some such measure is proposed by Mr. Taft will be enacted.

The message of the President bearing upon the question of enacting a voluntary Federal corporation law to offset the interpretation placed upon the Sherman anti-trust law by the Standard Oil Company dissolution case, and a possible attempt to undo the Supreme Court decision that decision, has attracted little attention in the House.

On the Senate side the members of the Judiciary Committee have been favored with an opportunity to read the bill which President Taft and Attorney General Clegg have drafted and will present to the Senate through Senator Clark, of Wyoming, chairman of the Committee on Judiciary.

Comments upon the Federal incorporation bill have not been altogether favorable.

The administration bills to carry out Mr. Taft's views on the subject of the conservation of natural resources are still before the House Committee on Public Lands awaiting the announcement of some volunteer to take the bills up. The House has declined by President Taft and Secretary Ballinger, attention will be given to the measures by individual members. It is expected that they will be parceled out among several of the Western Representatives.

Think Taft Mistaken.

Many people believe that the administration forces made a mistake in declining the proffer of Mr. Mondell. His opposition to the Ballinger bills is said to be in harmony with lukewarm support given by him in the past to the Roosevelt or Taft policies for the conservation of natural resources.

Several hearings of more than ordinary interest are scheduled to take place, or at least begin, during the coming week. There will be the consideration of the proposed commerce bills at both ends of the Capitol, the Mann canal bill before the Senate Committee on Intercommerce Canals, and the meat inspection question before the House Committee on Agriculture. Other interesting situations will be raised in the House Committee on Expenditures in the Interior